



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUSTIN MAN INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY FOR TAX EVASION

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that a federal grand jury in Austin, Texas, returned an indictment against Steven Dale Shanklin of Austin, for tax evasion in calendar years 1998, 1999, and 2000.

The indictment charges Shanklin with three counts of tax evasion. It alleges that Shanklin filed a 1998 income tax return claiming that his wages, taxable income and amount of total tax for that year was \$0.00 when, in fact, as an employee of Cisco Systems Sales and Services, Inc., Shanklin earned W-2 wages of approximately \$876,398.56. The indictment also alleges that Shanklin failed to file income tax returns for calendar years 1999 and 2000 while earning W-2 wages of approximately \$770,504.23 in 1999 and \$681,955.34 in 2000. The indictment further states that Shanklin carried out his tax evasion scheme, in part, through the use of false and fraudulent W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificates which he signed and submitted to his employer.

Upon conviction, Shanklin faces up to five years in federal prison per count.

This case is being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations Division and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sharon S. Pierce.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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